GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:577
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
TELEPHONE TO EACH GRAM PANCHAYAT
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide telephone to each Gram Panchayat;

(b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone facilities in the country, State-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether the target to provide telephone to each Gram Panchayat in Vilupuram district has not been achieved;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps the Government proposes to take to achieve the target?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2,30,788 Gram Panchayats in the country including 13126 Gram Panchayats of Tamil Nadu State have been provided with telephone facility as per details given in the Annexure. In all 5,29,377 number of villages out of 6,07,491 villages have been provided with Village Public Telephones (VPTs) as on 30.06.2005.

(c) All the Gram Panchayats in Vilupuram district of Tamil Nadu have already been provided with telephone facility.

(d) & (e): Do not arise in view of (c) above.

ANNEXURE

TELECOM CIRCLE-WISE DETAILS OF GRAM PANCHAYATS PROVIDED WITH TELEPHONE FACILITIES IN THE COUNTRY

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom Circle	Number of Gram Panchayats provided with Telephone facilities
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	67
2.	Andhra Pradesh	18335
3.	Assam	2319
4.	Bihar	8471
5.	Chhattisgarh	7929
6.	Gujarat	12370
7	Haryana	5922
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3019
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	907
10.	Jharkhand	3322
11.	Karnataka	5692
12.	Kerala	1000
13.	Madhya Pradesh	19938
14.	Maharashtra	22917
15.	North East - I	1784
16.	North East - II	3343
17.	Orissa	5121
18.	Punjab	12687
19.	Rajasthan	8708
20.	Tamil Nadu	13126
21.	Uttar Pradesh(East)	51262

22.	Uttar Pradesh(West)		12831
23.	Uttaranchal		6245
24.	West Bengal		3473
Total		230788	